

FRITZ BERGFELD BLOCK  
321-323 WEST SECOND STREET  
DAVENPORT  
SCOTT COUNTY  
IOWA

HABS No. IA-133

HABS  
IOWA  
82-DAVPC  
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FRITZ BERGFELD BLOCK

HABS No. IA-133

Firtz Bergfeld Block  
321-323 W. 2nd Street  
Original Town, Block 7, Lot 7  
Owners: Neoma Buooa, 321½ W. 2nd Street, Davenport, Iowa 52801  
Phillip Leman, 4607 30th Ave., Court, Rock Island, IL 61201

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Description:

The Bergfeld block is a three-story, six-bay double commercial block. The brick building has semi-circular brick arches with stone keystones. Original window openings have been retained in both building sections though double hung single light sash may have replaced four over four double-sash. The building's cornice is a particularly fine example of ornamental brick detailing. The only major alteration in the Bergfeld block is to the west half of the first flood facade. The first floor, east section has retained the original plate glass display windows and frame detailing.

Significance:

Built in 1878, this Italianate style commercial block is one of the better remaining examples of medium scale, Victorian commercial architecture in the downtown. Its ornamental brick work is well preserved and representative of detailing similar to other 1870's period buildings.

Fritz Bergfeld, a German immigrant to this country in the 1850's, operated a saloon and billiard hall in a portion of this building (probably the east half) from its construction in c.1878 until the 1880's.

Part of the present architectural significance of the building stems from its use for nearly 60 years as Kistenmacher Drug Store (1920-1977). Furnishings from that period are currently being salvaged and sold privately.

Other occupants of the double block have included Henry Schroeder and P. Leonardy's saloon (1895-1920); Strohkarck, Stehn, and Eckermann Co., hardware store (1900-1910); Feeney Grocery (1920's); and Leman Furniture (c.1930-present).

Sources:

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6. "New Buildings," Davenport Democrat, November 13, 1968, p.1
7. Oszucik, Phillipe, "A History of the Architecture and Urbanization of Nineteenth Century Davenport, Iowa." Dissertation, Univ. of Iowa, 1979.
8. Wilke, Franc B., Davenport Past and Present, Davenport: Publishing House of Luse, Lane & Co., 1858.

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